

MINUTES

INDIANA BOARD OF FIREFIGHTING PERSONNEL STANDARDS AND EDUCATION

December 12th, 2005

10 AM

Wayne Twp FD
700 S High School Rd
Indianapolis IN Rm C

A. BOARD MEETING CALLED TO ORDER.

B. ROLL CALL

Darrick Scott (10 Year Service FF)
Roger Johnson (Fire Marshal)
Joseph Wainscott (Director of Training)
Paul Covington (Officer)
Charles Hall (Citizen)
Jack Kerney (10 Year Service FF)
Jerry Nulliner (Asst. Fire Chief)
Tom Hanify (Officer) (in at 10:40)

ABSENT

Bernice Clark (Citizen)
Patrick Donoghue (Fire Chief)

Darrick Scott (Vice-Chairman presiding) Spoke of the loss of Tom Loraine, Board member of many years, and how he was a great loss to the fire service.

C. MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 31ST, AND STATISTICAL REPORT FROM OCTOBER 1ST through NOVEMBER 30, 2005.

Jerry Nulliner made a motion to approve the minutes. Roger Johnson seconded. Motion passed.

Paul Covington made a motion to approve statistical report. Roger Johnson seconded. Motion passed.

D. VARIANCES

1. Ben Sieverding is requesting variances for Rope Rescue Awareness, 655 IAC 1-2.1-75 (a), Roper Rescue Operations, 655 IAC 1-2.1-96 (a); and Rope Rescue Technician, 655 IAC 1-2.1-97 (a) based on his training through Rescue 3 International.

Staff recommends approval. No written/practical in place.

Roger Johnson made a motion to approve. Jerry Nulliner seconded. Motion passed.

2. Ronald Wark is requesting a variance for Instructor I, 655 IAC 1-2.1-19 and Instructor 2/3, 655 IAC 1-2.-1-20. He is a Primary Instructor and a Firefighter 2. (he failed the instructor crossover in 1999)(he has passed the instructor update test)

Staff recommends denial. We have written and practical tests in place.

Paul Covington made a motion to approve Instructor I, but deny Instructor 2/3. Charles Hall seconded. Motion passed.

Denial of Instructor 2/3 because Primary Instructor does not meet the requirements for Instructor 2/3.

The following Firefighters from Sugar Creek FD are each requesting a variance for Rope Rescue Technician, 655 IAC 1-2.1-97, based on training of the Rope Team Technician classes held by CMC Rescue School.

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|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 3. Dennis Boyd | 4. Matt Pape |
| 5. Jay Umbaugh | 6. Darrick Scott |
| 7. Hidekatsu Kajitani | 8. Paul Watson |
| 9. Michael Stewart | 10. Jared Dougherty |
| 11. William Roberts | |

Staff recommends approval. No written/practical testing in place.

Roger Johnson made motion to approve. Jerry Nulliner seconded.
Motion passed.

12. Donald Burnham Jr. is requesting a variance for Instructor 2/3, 655 IAC 1-2.1-20. He was a First Class Instructor. Failed the instructor crossover in 1999.

Staff recommends denial. Written and practicals tests in place.

Discussion by Paul Covington, this gentleman is the one that started this process, and he should have applied for reciprocity. He has stayed active in the fire service and he is a school teacher.

Paul Covington made a motion to approve. Charles Hall seconded.
Motion passed.

13. Douglas Debest is requesting variances for FO 4, 655 IAC 1-2.1-11, and Public Information Officer, 655 IAC 1-2.1-93.
Certifications and transcripts enclosed.

Staff recommends approval based on certifications and transcripts provided.

Roger Johnson made a motion to approve based on documentation enclosed. Jack Kerney seconded. Motion passed.

14. Matthew Alexander is requesting variances for Hazardous Material Awareness, 655 IAC 1-2.1-24, and Hazardous Material Operations, 655 IAC 1-2.1-24.1. Certifications enclosed.

Staff recommends denial. Written and practical tests in place.

Discussion by Paul Covington. Based on reciprocity rules, Pro Board meets the requirements of state certification.

Paul Covington made a motion to approve. Jerry Nulliner seconded. Motion passed.

15. Steven Yelich is re requesting a variance for Swift Water Rescue Technician, 655 IAC 1-2.1-107 based on training completed at Ohio DNR Basic River Rescue.

Staff recommends approval. No written/practical testing in place.

Jerry Nulliner made a motion to approve. Roger Johnson seconded. Motion passed.

16. Darrick Scott is requesting a variance for Swift Water Rescue Technician, 655 IAC 1-2.1-107, based on training completed at Ohio DNR Basic River Rescue, and Cold Water Survival and Ice Rescue Instructor Course.

Staff recommends approval. No written/practical testing in place.

Roger Johnson made a motion to approve. Charles Hall seconded. Motion passed.

17. Richard Pohlman is requesting variances for the following based on work experience and education:

Confined Space Rescue Awareness 655 IAC 1-2.1-75.3

Confined Space Rescue Operations 655 IAC 1-2.1-100

Confined Space Rescue Technician 655 IAC 1-2.1-101

Fire Officer 2 655 IAC 1-2.1-9

Fire Officer 3 655 IAC 1-2.1-10

Fire Officer 4 655 IAC 1-2.1-11

Rescue Tech-surface water rescue 655 IAC 1-2.1-75.1

Rope Rescue Awareness 655 IAC 1-2.1-75

Rope Rescue Operations 655 IAC 1-2.1-96

Rope Rescue Technician 655 IAC 1-2.1-97

Structural Collapse Rescue Awareness 655 IAC 1-2.1-76.1

Structural Collapse Rescue Operations	655 IAC 1-2.1-102
Structural Collapse Rescue Technician	655 IAC 1-2.1-103
Swift Water Rescue Awareness	655 IAC 1-2.1-76.1
Swift Water Rescue Operations	655 IAC 1-2.1-106
Swift Water Rescue Tech	655 IAC 1-2.1-107
Trench Rescue Awareness	655 IAC 1-2.1-76.1
Trench Rescue Operations	655 IAC 1-2.1-104
Trench Rescue Tech	655 IAC 1-2.1-105
Vehicle/Machinery Rescue Awareness	655 IAC 1-2.1-75.2
Vehicle/Machinery Rescue Operations	655 IAC 1-2.1-98
Vehicle/Machinery Rescue Tech	655 IAC 1-2.1-99

Staff recommends denial on Fire Officer 2 and Fire Officer 3. Written and practical in place. Recommend approval on balance of requests.

Paul Covington made a motion to approve all except the Fire Officer requests. Roger Johnson seconded. Motion approved.

E. RECIPROCITY

1. Joshua Medler in requesting reciprocity certification for Firefighter 1, 655 IAC 1-2.1-4, Firefighter 2, 655 IAC 1-2.1-5, Hazmat Awareness, 655 IAC 1-2.1-24, Hazmat Operations, 655 IAC 1-2.1-24.1, Vehicle and Machinery Rescue Operations, 655 IAC 1-2.1-98 (a) based on Illinois certification.

Staff recommends denial. Written and practical tests in place.

Paul Covington made a motion to deny the request. Charles Hall seconded. Motion passed.

2. Robert Murdock is requesting reciprocity for Firefighter 1, 655 IAC 1-2.1-4, Firefighter 2, 655 IAC 1-2.1-5 based on Illinois certification.

Staff recommends denying. Written and practical tests in place.

Jerry Nulliner made a motion to deny the request. Paul Covington seconded. Motion passed.

F. STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT – MARSHAL ROGER JOHNSON

The Marshal had no report and allotted his time to Director Wainscott.

G. HOMELAND SECURITY TRAINING – DIRECTOR JOSEPH WAINSCOTT

Director Wainscott had no report and allotted his time to John Buckman.

John Buckman handed out packets for State Fire Training System Status. This is a power point presentation. We have designated district 7 as one of the designated district counsels. We had a meeting with them and about 75 people attended the meeting. John Shaffer from Greencastle is the person they designated as their Counsel Chairperson. We are still searching for money for this project. District 1 is another district that we are working with. District 1 already has a plan; they have a partnership with Fire, Police, and Law Enforcement. District 7 will be a fire based only. We still have Ft Wayne on the table and we are still working with them on their system.

We are searching for Web based training. We have been talking with Jones and Bartlett, they have given us access to the system for 30 days as a trial period, and one of my firefighters in Evansville is doing it now. We have a Fire Chief Orientation scheduled for next year. This program will be expanded and modified. We are going to have classes and teach where to go for the money, and how to apply for it. This program will be a day and a half instead of just a day. There is money available from Homeland Security for food and lodging if more than 50 miles from home, just like the Purdue program. We will have one through the week and we will hold some on the weekend. We are trying to develop an Instructor In-service. There is too much confusion out there as to what is required, what to teach, etc. This will be a one day seminar. One on a weekday and one on the weekend.

We are working with Purdue for the use of there fire simulator. It is a great tool for teaching.

The Strategy and Tactics test has been cleaned up and the criteria is out of the NFA programs. There was a discussion at this time about the program and he security on this test. Most people are not aware that this program exists and we need to market this and let them know. We are still working with South Bend on their Swift Water training facility so we can start doing additional training there. We are going to give a one day program for Fire Investigation. We have additional funds for Hazmat training.

H. REGISTRATION AND CERTIFICATION – TONY PAGANO

The EMS Committee has lowered the age of the First Responder. They can be certified at the age of 14. This still has to go through rule promulgation, but this will be the age limit for First Responder. We are starting to get practicals on line. We have Driver Operator Aerial, Fire Officer 1, Fire Officer 2, Hazmat Operations and Mandatory. The balance are in State Forms and will be on line soon. When this is completed, we can stop mailing these and cut the mailing cost.

Jerry Nulliner spoke about categories that we have no written/practical testing in place. Jerry volunteered to work with the office to put together committees to get these things moving. Maynard Masters talked about practicals on the web site. He asked if practicals were not going to be mailed anymore. They would be available to anyone who asks for the practicals, but most will be able to get them off of the web site. We are willing to help the Fire Dept. but we would also like a little help from them, so that we can cut the expense to us.

Applications will have a box on the bottom, asking whether or not the Instructor needs the practical books.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS- ADMINISTRATIVE LAW
JUDGE, JUDGE TEEGARDEN.

1. Non final order of dismissal for Bruce Lovell, cause 05-03.

Tom Hanify made a motion to accept the dismissal. Charles Hall seconded. Motion passed.

J. OLD BUSINESS

1. Current standard changes – Paul Covington

We have some changes coming in 2006 that are going to need upgraded do to code changes. The biggest one will be the NFPA 472. The NFPA 1005 is another, Marine land based for marine FF. This is one that we have no testing in place but we need to start working with this. We need to get the tasks forces up to date so that we do not get caught like last time.

Mara Snyder asked the board members to bring to the January meeting, a list of what task forces they thought were out there and where they were at with validations at this time. These meetings must be open door meetings with minutes, and they have to be posted.

2. NIMS – Jerry Nulliner – Maynard Masters

On the 27th of October, the NIMS program became effective in Indiana. He was told that there would be no written test for this certification. IDHS does not have the authority to make this statement. The board makes this decision. Maynard went on the say that the State Fire Marshal's Office was in charge of Fire training in the state, not DHS. He went on discussing SB 56. I think we need to have a state test for NIMS. Anyone can go to the FEMA website, download the test, pass the test around and everyone can go on there and get certified, with no knowledge required for this. We need a state secured test for this.

Tom Hanify discussed the topic of SB56, and stated that this is a lobbyist job, and this board meeting was not the place to have this

meeting. This has brought up legal issues and this should be discussed at another time.

Joseph Wainscott made the comment that the board was requested to revisit the NIMS issue at the last meeting and discuss it further. Jerry Nulliner discussed the purpose of the test and certification. This certification is open to anyone. City of Lafayette has stated that all public employees will be certified with NIMS.

Randy Brown asked about the prerequisite for NIMS. The reply was: the FEMA certificate was acknowledged as all requirements being met.

Maynard Masters asked again why we were not going to test for this. Joseph Wainscott asked what the board was wanting with this certification.

Jerry Nulliner repeated the edict that state certification was not a requirement from the board. The local entities may require this but the board did not.

Joseph Wainscott stated that the Federal government requires this if you wanted to qualify for federal funds. There is no state requirement.

3. Administrative rule changes

The notice of intent for LSA Doc. 05-249, the proposed amendments to the rules, was published in the October 1 Indiana Register. In the past, the public hearing on new Board rules has been held at the IFVA convention. In order to do that this time, the rules will have to be sent to LSA not later than March 10.

There was discussion about what, if anything the board wanted to do with a cadet program. Do we want to be certifying cadets at the mandatory level? The age of 16 is where we used to be. This seemed to work well for us. We also used to take the cadet through the basic firefighter with some restrictions. No interior attack, no driving apparatus. Cadet programs that we know about are the J. Everett Light Career Center, Central 9 Career Center, both of which are excellent programs.

655 IAC 1-1-6.1

(a) lift restrictions on what an Instructor can and cannot teach.

655 IAC 1-1-7

Sanctions imposed by the board for violations. How far do we want to restrict registration on criminal convictions.

Do you want to restrict from the rule date or do you want to go back into the past. Question on the floor is how do we enforce it? How do we catch all of this? A letter from someone will start an investigation and then we could go from there. We would need to put this option on the application like the EMS has. Have you ever been convicted of a felony? Yes or No.

Section 9; Reciprocity

NIMS is a good example. What will automatically get state certification without having to go to the board. For NIMS Awareness what is required. The integration center sets the standards and maybe we should look at that for a place to start. The discussion was that if this is something the Feds are putting out, we should be comfortable with it. Pro Board would be reciprocal, IFSAC and FEMA.

Joe Wainscott asks: why do we not require instructors to be certified in the field they are teaching?

The board's position is that we do not care which subject a certified instructor is teaching. (Paul Covington) Just did you learn enough to pass the test. They have to pass the testing based on the objectives and if they pass then they were taught properly.

Section 12:

Here is where you would put authorization about the auditing.
(d) why do we care when practicals are completed.

4. Testing and audit issues – Paul Covington

The rumor on the street is that this board has become the good old boys, and we are allowing instructors to do things out there that they shouldn't be doing, and the only way to fix this is to start auditing test sites. IFSAC is going to start doing this and I would rather we cleaned up our own house. We know not all instructors are doing practicals, and there are issues on the written tests. It is in our rules that we have the right to do this and we need to utilize this option.

Maybe on test outs we should require a higher score. We need to do something about these problems. We talk about security and lack of security. Darrick Scott spoke about the problems with test outs. He talked about test outs. Your best friend will proctor and evaluate you, and then you proctor and evaluate him, and no practicals are being done at all.

Mara Snyder spoke about the problems, and one suggestion was that not allowing an instructor not being allowed to test his own department.

Darrick Scott spoke about testing out being the largest loop hole there is.

Maynard Masters spoke about setting up a task force in different parts of the state. The objective of this task force would be to drop in at these sites.

The discussion continued about 100% of the practicals needing to be done. The Firefighter 1/2 was tested on 4 of the practicals, and this should not be. There is no provision in the rule that states that only XX amount of practicals need to be completed. The rules say 100% of the practicals.

The topic went to discussing how the EMS side do practicals. Everyone has to go to a test site and do the practicals, and maybe we should consider doing this for the fire side. Another option would be to have adjunct instructors available to come to an area and proctor and evaluate.

Jack Kerney states that he does not believe the problem is really that bad. He does not want to mandate that a volunteer department must

send it's firefighters someplace else to take a test. They need to be able to do this at their location.

The comment was made that do we want the board who is creating policy to audit? A suggestion was that the fire inspectors could audit the exam sites. The concern then, was the training of these inspectors. There is no easy answer but something has to happen.

Question asked was, "How do you determine the random audit?" The more a location tests, the more they are bound to be audited. Once the training facilities are established, they can then audit there own areas.

It was decided that the board would have to draft audit rules and regulations. In the short term, students have to lodge a complaint. They are getting the poor training, poor instructions, etc.

Question on (d) practical skills will be administered at the conclusion of the course. Why do we care when the skills are done as long as they are completed? Per Paul Covington, if you do the skills during the course, then you must redo the skills at the end of the course. Mara Snyder stated that this needs to be reworded to read "all practical skills," and remove "at the conclusion of the course."

Firefighter 1 and 2, we only test on 4. The student is to complete the book during the class, but only tested on 4. The rules do not state this and so we need to change the rules to allot for this.

Question was asked, how do you schedule all the practicals for 1 day. The recommendation is to remove "at the conclusion". and for Firefighter 1/2, remove the word "all" practical skills. Is there some way to create scenarios, including several skills for FF1/2 at the same time instead of individual skills.

Paul Covington, stated that he would like to change to the language to, "the lead instructor ensures that all practical skills exams are completed prior to the final exam, and verifies this to the lead evaluator."

Marshal Johnson states that this entire issue be conducted at a special meeting be called and this discussed. We have so many issues that are not going to be resolved today.

Marshal Johnson made a motion to pass this. Paul Covington Seconded. Motion passed.

At this time a meeting was set up for January 18,2006 for document 05-249 at Wayne Twp, Fire Dept. 9 AM, Room C.

5. Mandatory training – driving safety - Paul Covington

An attorney has given Mara a work up covering Indiana law's. We might need to work it a little bit, but I think this will work for what we wants.

Mara Snyder states that this curriculum cannot be an approved curriculum but a sample of what you can use.

K. NEW BUSINESS

1. Meeting dates for 2006

Next meeting will be January 23, 2006 at Wayne Twp. And the balance of meeting days will be voted on at this time.

2. Board review of mandatory training issues, including presentation by John Buckman.

The curriculum for the mandatory will combine mandatory, basic, Hazmat awareness, and operations into one package. One of the things that we heard during the meetings was that “we don't know what to teach” ,”all of my students are failing this”. This package will be available to all instructors at no charge. This will contain everything you need to teach this class. We are going to have a final meeting for

a run through to make sure that we have covered everything, it all fits together, and everyone understands it. This meeting will be in the Government center on January 5, 2006. This product will then be 90% on target and available for field testing.

Maynard Masters questioned combining the basic and mandatory. Many Fire Chiefs are not going to like this. It is taking more hours and they need these people out there now.

Jerry Nulliner explained that because of the format layout, anyone can pull out the module for basic, and what would be left would be mandatory only. The instructor would be able to do this with no problem.

Jack Kerney explained, that if this is presented positively, there should be no problem with anyone accepting this as it is.

3. Jeff Hayes would like to talk about J Everett Light Career Center programs.

Jeff Hayes was not able to attend this meeting.

Tom Hanify on behalf of the board, thanked the staff for doing a great job this year.

Jack Kerney seconded this and special thanks to Paul Covington for his extra effort this year.

Jerry Nulliner asked about the NIMS testing. If the test was available should we be giving this test. It was agreed that this would be discussed at the special meeting on January 18th.

Next meeting will be on January 23rd, 2006 10 AM at Wayne Twp FD.

M. MEETING ADJOURNED